

Homeowner HVAC FAQ

Your Guide to Staying Comfortable, Efficient, and Safe

Cooling (Air Conditioning)

Why is my AC not cooling the house?

DIY: Check thermostat, replace dirty filter, ensure vents are open.

Call a Pro: If still warm, ice on coils, or strange noises.

Why is my AC leaking water inside the house?

DIY: Turn off system, check drain line.

Call a Pro: Leak persists, mold appears, or drain pan is damaged.

Why is my AC making loud or strange noises?

Buzzing, screeching, or banging? Shut off and call a technician.

How often should I change my AC filter?

1" filters: monthly; 4-5" filters: every 3-6 months; more often with pets or allergies.

Heating (Furnace)

Why is my furnace blowing cold air?

DIY: Check thermostat, pilot light, filter, breakers.

Call a Pro: No ignition, continuous cold air, or gas smell.

Is it normal to smell something when the heat first turns on?

Dusty smell: normal. Plastic or gas: call immediately.

Why does my furnace keep shutting off and turning on again?

Could be dirty filter or thermostat. Call a technician for inspection.

Airflow, Vents & Ductwork

Why are some rooms too hot or too cold?

Adjust vents, inspect ducts. May need zoning or insulation.

Do I need duct cleaning?

Yes, every 3-5 years or with dust, mold, pests, or allergies.

Thermostats & Smart Controls

Why is my thermostat blank or unresponsive?

Replace batteries, check power. Call a pro if unresponsive.

Benefits of a Smart Thermostat

Remote control, energy savings, alerts. Ask for installation help.

Humidity & Condensation

Why is my home so humid with the AC running?

May need a dehumidifier or system check.

Why is there water around my furnace?

Could be condensate issue or cracked exchanger. Call for inspection.

HVAC System Maintenance

How often should I get professional HVAC maintenance?

AC: Spring, Furnace: Fall, Heat Pump: Twice/year.

What does a tune-up include?

Coil cleaning, refrigerant check, safety inspection, airflow testing.

Repair vs. Replacement

When should I replace instead of repair?

If system is 10-15+ years, frequent repairs, or high bills.

How much does a new HVAC system cost?

AC: \$3.5K-\$7.5K, Furnace: \$2.5K-\$6K, Full: \$7K-\$15K+.

Emergency Situations & Safety

What to do if you smell gas?

Evacuate, avoid switches, call gas company, then a tech.

Do I need carbon monoxide detectors?

Yes, install near furnace and bedrooms. Test monthly.